

THE DAILY DEMOCRAT

Edw. S. Hartner, Fred W. Sayer
Editors and Managers.

Ed H. De La Cour, Mgr. Advertising Dept.

PUBLISHED BY THE AKRON DEMOCRAT COMPANY

OFFICE: Democrat Block, Nos. 125 and 127 Main st.
1005 DISTANCE FROM 125.OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: JAMES V. WELSH
President, JAMES V. WELSH
Vice-President, JAMES V. WELSH
Secretary, JAMES V. WELSH
Treasurer, JAMES V. WELSH
JAMES V. WELSH
JAMES V. WELSHEntered at the Postoffice at Akron, Ohio, as
Second-Class Mail Matter.Delivered Every Evening by Carrier Boy
5 CENTS A WEEK
By Mail \$2.50 - - - \$1.50 for Six Months

Official Paper of the City of Akron.

TO TELEPHONE THE DEMOCRAT CALL
NO. 180.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22.

TRADE MARK

"RATIFYING" A GRAB.

The result of the suit brought by

the city, at the request of the Citizens' Committee of Fifty, to restrain

the Central Union Telephone company from proceeding to act under

the 25-year franchise that was railroad through the Council a year

ago, comes as no surprise to the citizens of Akron.

The U. S. Circuit court (Judge Taft), to whom the case was submitted,

holds among other things,—"That the ordinance of the City of Akron, passed November 14, 1898,

agreeing with the Central Union Telephone company as to its mode of use of the streets,

alleys, and public ways of said city, is a valid and subsisting ordinance."

And continuing the Court finds—"That the City Commissioners of the City of Akron, by granting

permission to the Central Union Telephone company from time to time to act under said

ordinance, and the said Central Union Telephone company carrying out the permission so

granted to it, and expending large sums of money in so doing, HAVE RATIFIED SAID

CONTRACT."

The Citizens' Committee of Fifty, and the telephone users of Akron,

who have been contending for nearly two years to impel

the local telephone monopoly to recognize their rights to cheaper

rates and better service, are under obligations to the Court for so clearly

indicating responsibility for the setback that has been given their cause.

Set-back, did we say? Only in this, that insofar as the telephone monopoly

has been confirmed in the possession of its stolen rights, the people's

opportunity to deal with that monopoly upon a basis of equality has been

destroyed.

The seal of legality has been placed

upon a long term franchise,—railroaded through the Council by the

votes of faithless representatives, against the expressed wishes of the

people and upon the very heels of the prosecution of a lobbyist charged

with attempting bribery in connection with the franchise.

Thanks to the suggestive favoritism or gross stupidity of our local

officials, the franchise in which the people had absolute ownership, and

which at one time was their only hope of bringing an arrogant

monopoly to reasonable terms, has been played like so much

dross into the hands of the very monopoly which has hitherto

sneered at the people's rights. Henceforth, if any of the citizens of

Akron want any deserved favors which the telephone monopoly may

be unwilling to give—favors not named in its illiberal franchise, they may humbly petition for their rights.

They cannot demand!

Were the directors of any of Akron's private corporations to so

conduct the business of their concerns as three of Akron's City Commissioners have administered Akron's

affairs with reference to the Central Union Telephone company's franchise,—wobbling between the

extremes of favoritism to monopoly and an enforced sense of duty to the public,—an emergency meeting

of the stockholders would be called forthwith and the directors would

be ousted from office without ceremony. They would be ousted for

their unsurpassed stupidity if not for open collusion.

But the city of Akron,—this corporation which represents nearly 50,000

of people, and an estimated capitalization of upwards of a hundred millions of dollars, must continue to suffer from the blunders of incompetent or neglectful public servants, with no hope of immediate relief.

The Democrat congratulates the citizens of Akron that out of the wreck of their opportunities, sacrificed to what may be either studied neglect or extreme favoritism, or both, they have been spared one resource: It cannot be said that they are placed at the absolute mercy of a corporation that has overreached them in their rights. The people can yet make their choice of telephone service as between a company that has voluntarily offered them deserved concessions, and a monopoly that has not only shown a stubborn determination to resist the petitions and wishes of the people, but which stands before the public with the taint of alleged attempted bribery upon its vested rights.

IMPROVE THE FIRE SERVICE.

If Akron's citizens are wise they will not forget the lesson taught by the Buchtel college fire.

That costly misfortune showed to the people that their fire department, as at present equipped, cannot be counted upon to successfully fight a fire in any building over three stories in height.

Suppose the Cereal Mill, the Goodrich Rubber Works, the Werner Works, or any of Akron's manufacturing plants were to be destroyed by fire by reason of the inadequate protection afforded them by the City? Would these plants be rebuilt in Akron, thus inviting the risk of another destruction, or would they be located in cities where the people are liberal enough to furnish them protection?

Hitherto propositions for the improvement of the fire service have been defeated by margins of less than a hundred votes. In a single night Buchtel college and one of Akron's finest residences were sacrificed to this spirit of false economy that has governed appropriations for the fire department. Are the people ready to vote now to improve the service or do they want more sacrifices?

The City Board of Elections should re-submit the question—and find out!

THE DEMOCRAT told the people last Saturday that the telephone case was going to be decided against the city because the officials charged with looking after the city's interests seemed to look upon the matter as a joke. It will be remembered that in this connection, Commissioner McGarry, whose record throughout the telephone controversy has been one of which his constituents are proud, said: "The city's interests in the case have been attended to only in a perfunctory manner; and three of the Commissioners have signed affidavits virtually letting the bottom drop out of the city's side of the case, while the Telephone company has made a hard fight. If the case goes against the city, I shall not be surprised in the least." The DEMOCRAT is going to print the affidavits to which Commissioner McGarry refers and let the people see for themselves how a suit, brought ostensibly in defense of public rights, has been burlesqued by men sworn and well paid to protect them.

"The County Commissioners are slowly clearing away the obstacles that stand in the way of a final decision upon the annexation question," says a local paper. And then the paper goes on to tell what the assessors will have to do after the

territory is annexed. For more than a month the Commissioners have been hawking about the annexation project, wasting more time than Congress required to settle the matter of annexing Hawaii, and raising imaginary and technical objections that have no real bearing upon the subject. Why not stop further delay and let the people have a Greater Akron for a Christmas present?

ATTORNEY S. G. ROGERS is to be congratulated for the winning fight he has made in behalf of his client, the Central Union Telephone company. The court's decree indicates that he had a bad case to begin with, but the esteemed Board of City Commissioners braced it up considerably. When distressed corporations need good lawyers to fight their battles they will always find Akron talent equal to the emergency.

IT SEEMS strange that after being accommodating enough to go the office of the telephone monopoly's local attorney, and sign affidavits which, as Commissioner McGarry says, "virtually let the bottom drop out of the city's case against the Telephone company," Akron's City Commissioners should be held responsible by the court for "ratifying" the telephone monopoly's 25-year franchise grab.

WHAT with City Solicitor Osborn Esqate's ponderous affidavit, and his "O. K." on the back of the court decree, how could Akron have lost the telephone case? It is too deep for us. Perhaps the Citizens' Committee of Fifty can figure it out.

THE CITIZENS' COMMITTEE OF FIFTY ought to present a leather medal to the three City Commissioners who, as Judge Taft says, "ratified" the telephone monopoly's railroad franchise.

DO AKRON'S CITIZENS want to get rid of the City Commissioner system? Ask Senator Alexander and the telephone users.

LATE LOCALS.

Evangelist Crispin addressed the Order of Good Templars at Peninsula Wednesday evening on "The Drink Evil."

None of the employees of the C. & C. railroad will be affected by the recent change in control.

Witnesses called to the Coroner's investigation of the C. & P. wreck at Newburg, claim that it was caused by defective air brakes.

Chas. Henry of Akron, chairman of the Ohio Architects' License Law committee, in collaboration with fellow members of the committee, has prepared a bill for the licensing of architects and regulating the practice of architecture as a profession. It will be presented to the legislature for passage.

Fire Chief Manderbach was in Warren at the time of the fire Wednesday night. He went to attend the inspection of Bell-Harmon Post, G. A. R., with N. Chalker, J. H. Seymour and Homer Bass.

The Woman's Relief corps held memorial services in G. A. R. hall Thursday afternoon.

Miss Hannah Watt, of 291 West State st., attending college at Oberlin, has been removed to the Cleveland General hospital, where she will undergo an operation for appendicitis.

dilemma. Her mother, Mrs. James Watt, went to Cleveland, Thursday.

The following program will be rendered at the Christmas festival for the Sunday school in the Universalist chapel on Saturday evening at 7 o'clock: Piano solo, Earl Homan; recitations, Flossy Bell, Mildred Lynn, Alberta Roach; vocal solo, Orlando Hardy; recitations, Lloyd Evans, Ruth Priest, Evelyn Church; duet and chorus, Minnie and Flossy Bell; recitations, Donna Tinker, Marion Voria, Blanche Olin; song, Sunday school; duet, Ruth Priest and Harland Whiteman; recitation, Dora Feederle; song, Sunday school; piano solo, Russel Thornton; duet and chorus, Ward Hobicht and Eva Miller; Santa Claus and the Xmas tree.

Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Harris, Miss Winifred Phelps, C. H. Kent, Miss Altha Gates, Mrs. Wm. Chatham Jr., and Mrs. J. O. McClintock, all of Chagrin Falls, are registered at the Empire.

POKER

Was Used On Barrett by His Wife.

He Claims She Provoked an Assault — Police Court Cases.

Thomas Barrett was arraigned in police court Friday morning, accused of assault and battery. His wife is the plaintiff. The case was continued to Saturday morning. Barrett says his wife provoked the assault by striking him with a poker. Mrs. Barrett's right eye is in mourning.

Chas. Catterman was sentenced to 30 days and fined the costs upon complaint that he failed to provide for his family. The time sentence was suspended, pending good behavior.

Intoxication. James Flynn and Harry Roberts cases continued to Saturday morning; James Jones, \$2 and costs.

Fels-Naptha soap is worth \$1 a week if you value no smell in the house on wash-day. It costs 5c; and the grocer returns the 5c, if you don't agree.

Fels & Co., makers, Philadelphia.

SURE CURE FOR BALDNESS.

Tera Whaler and Go Artteward.

"Talk of hairy restorers," said the captain of a sound steamboat, who was a whaler once, "none of them is in it with the air of the arctic regions. A man with thin hair who fails to get a new crop if he goes within the arctic circle is a hopeless case. I have seen whalers who got bald when they staid at home for a year or two and got a new crop of hair every time they went toward the north pole on a whaling expedition."

"How do I account for it? Ask me something harder. The farther you go north the land animals get shagrier. It is a provision of nature against the cold. When the arctic winter approaches, the reindeer, the bears and other animals take on a thicker coat of hair or fur. Similarly the hair on the human head thickens when you go far north, especially on the approach of winter. It is a fact. Now, I don't want you to think that, once the follicles of the hair are dead, new hair always comes even in northern regions. Sometimes when a man is apparently as bald as a billiard ball the follicles are not dead, and there is hope for him."

"I remember a remarkable case when I was mate of the whaler Sea Foam in the latter part of the fifties. The boatswain was a man named James Rogers, but he was generally known as 'Baldy' because he had not a single hair on his scalp. He was a good whaler and an all around good seaman, and in spite of the fact that he had

silenced the doctor. The Christian Register says: "A correspondent, apropos of our remark about eternal punishment, sends us the following reminiscences of Dr. Gannett. It was his custom to give a reception to the visiting ministers in anniversary week. "On one occasion Dr. Gannett suggested an objection to any dogmatic affirmation of universal salvation. He said: 'Why, brethren, suppose I elect to sin; suppose I enjoy it; suppose I want just that sort of future and don't want any other?' "Mr. Calthrop, being present, immediately exclaimed, 'But, Dr. Gannett, you wouldn't be such a fool!' "But suppose I will be such a fool?" "Then," said Mr. Calthrop, "God Almighty and I together say, 'Dr. Gannett, you shall not be such a fool.' And what God Almighty and I together say shall not be shall not be!"

How the Oak Will Grow.

There are trees which would seem to substantiate the theory of some scientists that there is no reason why a tree should ever die unless destroyed by unfavorable conditions or accident.

The oak, for example, will live as a sapling for ages until given opportunity for growth. There is an old saying to the effect that if a pine forest is cut down an oak forest will grow, and this is said to be literally true. Many of the acorns carried into the pine woods by birds and squirrels are left to sprout in the ground. As the tiny saplings grow browsing natives of the forest shades nibble off their tender leaves. Again and again new leaves are put forth, only to serve as food for hungry deer or moose or other marauding creatures. And so, hidden from sunlight, deprived, as it would appear, of every essential of life, the little plants live on, and when at last the pines are felled and the sunlight reaches them they begin their era of growth.

Successive Waves.

The following waif is going the rounds of the state press: We are told of a young lady in a neighboring town who waved her hand at a stranger, and in three days they were married. Two days later the young lady waved a station at her husband, and the next evening he came home waving a divorce.—Nashville Banner.

ALL OUR
HOLIDAY
NOVELTIES
AT REDUCED
PRICES.

WE HAVE

100

Fine Smoking Jackets
Which We Will Sell
This Week
AT COST.ALL OUR
HOLIDAY
NOVELTIES
AT REDUCED
PRICES.Greenwood Bros.
Star Clothing House
Hall's Corners.

Call and select your

Holiday
Presents...

From our stock of Guitars, Mandolins, Banjos, Violins, Music Boxes, Guitar Zithers, Drums, Cases for all Instruments, Music Rolls, Edison Phonographs and Graphophones.

Largest stock of NEW Records in the city.

O. G. BROWNELL,

Open Evenings. Tel. 1631. 207 Mill street

SPECIAL

Round Steak 9c, Sirloin 10c, Saturday, Dec. 16.

And other meats in proportion at

Gibbs' Meat Market - Five Points

CHRISTMAS CUT!

We wish to announce that we HAVE CUT PRICES IN TWO

on every TRIMMED HAT IN OUR STORE.

Plain and Fancy Corsets at 50c, 75c and \$1.00

Not too late to buy

Xmas Gifts of Use!

Xmas Gifts of Beauty!

Miss Helen Griffin, Corner High and Exchange Sts.

BARMORE'S
NO USE
For Santa Claus

THE GREAT ATTRACTION OF

Our Holiday Furniture

LOW PRICES

PUSH THE OLD MAN ASIDE.

L. A. BARMORE

182 S. MAIN ST.

Remember the Fulton Market

For its choice Xmas Turkeys, Chickens, Geese, Ducks, Fresh Oysters, SELECTS, Home-made Mince Meats, Home Slaughtered Meats, and all kinds of Sausage, and the best Home Sugar-cured Hams and Breakfast Bacon in the city.

CALL UP TEL. 407.

PROMPT DELIVERY TO ALL PARTS OF THE CITY.

Al. Boder, NORTH HOWARD STREET

GREAT CUT

—In the price of—

EASTMAN CAMERAS

Until further notice. One-third off for cash. Get one at once and be happy at

Geo. S. Dales & Son,

Telephone 1632 228 South Main Street, Akron, O.

Slaughter Sale
OF SHOES

Ladies' Narrow Toe Shoes, \$3.00, \$4.00 and \$5.00 goods, - - 98c

Ladies' Slippers, odd lots, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 goods, - - 50c

Good, Straight, Clean Shoes,
At Less than Cost to Make.

Phinney's Old Stand,

117 S. Howard St.